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HERZEGOVINA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-seventh year

Letter dated 7 October 1992 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I enclose a copy of the declaration on former Yugoslavia made by the Foreign Affairs Council of the European Community at its meeting in Luxembourg on 5 October 1992 (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 143, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) D. H. A. HANNAY

ANNEX

Declaration on former Yugoslavia made by the Foreign Affairs Council of the European Community at its meeting held in Luxembourg on 5 October 1992

1. The Community and its member States fully support the continuing efforts of Lord Owen and Mr. Vance to bring about a cessation of hostilities and a peaceful settlement. Despite these efforts, widespread violence and cruelty, the slaughter and deliberate deprivation of civilians, savage breaches of international humanitarian law and military aggression persist in many areas. The Community and its member States are pressing for urgent action in the United Nations for the implementation of agreements reached at the London Conference, including a no-fly zone in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and subsequent agreements such as the demilitarization of the Prevlaka Peninsula. They are actively involved in steps to secure the deployment of protected humanitarian convoys, the tightening of sanctions measures, the release of detainees, and the closure of detention camps and the supervision of heavy weapons.

2. The increasing evidence of atrocities, including mass killings and ethnic cleansing, principally by Serbian groups, must be collected systematically and investigated. The Community and its member States support the action in hand in the United Nations to establish a mechanism for the collection of data and a commission of experts to assist the Secretary-General in the analysis of the evidence. The perpetrators of mass killings and other grave breaches of international humanitarian law will be held individually responsible for their actions and the Community and its member States will cooperate with the United Nations and the relevant bodies in ensuring that justice is done.

3. Another major international relief effort is urgently required to avoid an even greater human tragedy as winter approaches. The resumption of the humanitarian airlift is warmly welcomed. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Committee of the Red Cross are doing invaluable work in all areas and will need even more generous support in the coming weeks in response to the appeal of the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The Community and its member States have contributed substantially to current efforts and are making available increased resources, particularly to cover housing needs. They call upon the international community to make a commensurate response to alleviate the desperate suffering of the population and the refugees of the former Yugoslavia.